

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
USNMR SHAPE
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 6126

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: MARR, MOPS, MPOL, NATO, GR, TU
SUBJ: TURKISH PROPOSAL FOR NATO CONTROL OF AEGEAN AIR SPACE

REF: STATE 204002 (DTG 112153Z AUG 78) (NOTAL)

1. DURING AUGUST 24 CALL BY MSA COUNSELOR ON GUN GUR (DIRECTOR,
MFA'S NATO AFFAIRS SECTION), NEW TURKISH PROPOSAL FOR NATO
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CONTROL OF AEGEAN AIR SPACE WAS BRIEFLY DISCUSSED. GUR
CONFIRMED THAT THIS WAS SAME PROPOSAL WHICH MFA SEC-GEN
ELKDAG MENTIONED TO COUNSELOR NIMETZ DURING THEIR AUGUST 9
WASHINGTON CONVERSATION (REFTEL).

2. GUR SAID THAT DURING RECENT BILATERAL TALKS WITH GREEKS
ON AEGEAN AIR SPACE, GOT PROPOSED THAT MUTUAL AREAS OF

RESPONSIBILITY FOR AIR DEFENSE AND AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL BE GOVERNED BY THE LINE ESTABLISHED WHERE THEIR RESPECTIVE NATO AIR DEFENSE GROUND ENVIRONMENT (NADGE) SYSTEMS INTERSECT. ACCORDING TO A MAP WHICH GUR PRODUCED, TURKISH SECTOR WOULD BE LESS THAN WHAT GOT CLAIMS UNDER NOTAM 714, BUT WOULD EXTEND CONSIDERABLY INTO AREA COVERED BY ATHENS FIR.

3. UNDER TURKISH PROPOSAL BOTH SIDES WOULD BE SIMULTANEOUSLY NOTIFIED OF AIRCRAFT WITHIN THE NADGE AREA AND PROCESS ITSELF WOULD BE TOTALLY AUTOMATIC, I.E., COMPUTERIZED. GUR SAID THAT GREEKS HAD TURNED DOWN GOT PROPOSAL AND HE SPECULATED THAT GOG PREFERRED MANUAL OR NON-AUTOMATIC SYSTEM OF NOTIFICATION SINCE THIS GAVE GOG TOTAL CONTROL OVER THE INFORMATION PASSED THROUGH THE SYSTEM. QUERIED ABOUT POSSIBLE GREEK SENSITIVITIES OVER REPORTING STRICTLY INTERNAL GREEK FLIGHTS UNDER THIS PROCESS, GUR REPLIED THAT SUCH MATTERS COULD EVENTUALLY BE WORKED OUT, IF ONLY SYSTEM ITSELF COULD BE ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE.

4. COMMENT: WHILE WE CANNOT JUDGE TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY OF THE GOT PROPOSAL, IT IS CLEARLY A PART OF WHAT WE EXPECT WILL BE A CONCERTED GOT EFFORT TO LINK A QUESTION OF GREEK RETURN TO INTEGRATED MILITARY STRUCTURE WITH RESOLUTION OF NATO COMMAND AND CONTROL ARRANGEMENTS IN THE AEGEAN. DILLON

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